

## Federal Communications Commission

## § 101.115

EDITORIAL NOTE: For FEDERAL REGISTER citations affecting § 101.113, see the List of CFR Sections Affected, which appears in the Finding Aids section of the printed volume and at [www.fdsys.gov](http://www.fdsys.gov).

### § 101.115 Directional antennas.

(a) Unless otherwise authorized upon specific request by the applicant, each station authorized under the rules of this part must employ a directional antenna adjusted with the center of the major lobe of radiation in the horizontal plane directed toward the receiving station with which it communicates: *provided, however*, where a station communicates with more than one point, a multi- or omni-directional antenna may be authorized if necessary. New Periscope antenna systems will not, under ordinary circumstances, be authorized.

(b) Fixed stations (other than temporary fixed stations and DEMS nodal stations) operating at 932.5 MHz or higher must employ transmitting and receiving antennas (excluding second receiving antennas for operations such as space diversity) meeting the appropriate performance Standard A indicated below, except that in areas not subject to frequency congestion, antennas meeting performance Standard B may be used, subject to the requirements set forth in paragraph (d) of this section. Licensees shall comply with the antenna standards table shown in this paragraph in the following manner:

(1) With either the maximum beamwidth to 3 dB points requirement or with the minimum antenna gain requirement; and

(2) With the minimum radiation suppression to angle requirement.

ANTENNA STANDARDS

Frequency (MHz)	Category	Maximum beamwidth to 3 dB points <sup>1</sup> (included angle in degrees)	Minimum antenna gain (dbi)	Minimum radiation suppression to angle in degrees from centerline of main beam in decibels						
				5° to 10°	10° to 15°	15° to 20°	20° to 30°	30° to 100°	100° to 140°	140° to 180°
932.5 to 935 .....	A	14.0	n/a	n/a	6	11	14	17	20	24
	B	20.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	6	10	13	15	20
941.5 to 944 .....	A	14.0	n/a	n/a	6	11	14	17	20	24
	B	20.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	6	10	13	15	20
952 to 960 <sup>2,3</sup> .....	A	14.0	n/a	n/a	6	11	14	17	20	24
	B	20.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	6	10	13	15	20
1,850 to 2,500 <sup>4</sup> .....	A	5.0	n/a	12	18	22	25	29	33	39
	B	8.0	n/a	5	18	20	20	25	28	36
3,700 to 4,200 .....	A	2.7	36	23	29	33	36	42	55	55
	B	2.7	36	20	24	28	32	32	32	32
5,925 to 6,425 <sup>5</sup> .....	A	2.2	38	25	29	33	36	42	55	55
	B	2.2	38	21	25	29	32	35	39	45
5,925 to 6,425 <sup>6</sup> .....	A	2.2	38	25	29	33	36	42	55	55
	B	2.2	38	20	24	28	32	35	36	36
6,525 to 6,875 <sup>5</sup> .....	A	2.2	38	25	29	33	36	42	55	55
	B	2.2	38	21	25	29	32	35	39	45
6,525 to 6,875 <sup>6</sup> .....	A	1.5	n/a	26	29	32	34	38	41	49
	B	2.0	n/a	21	25	29	32	35	39	45
6,875 to 7,125 .....	A	2.2	38	25	29	33	36	42	55	55
	B	2.2	38	21	25	29	32	35	39	45
10,550 to 10,680 <sup>7</sup> .....	A	3.5	33.5	18	24	28	32	35	55	55
	B	3.5	33.5	17	24	28	32	35	40	45
10,565 to 10,615 .....	n/a	360	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
10,630 to 10,680 <sup>8</sup> .....	n/a	3.5	34	20	24	28	32	35	36	36
10,700–11,700 <sup>5</sup> .....	A	2.2	38	25	29	33	36	42	55	55
	B	3.5	33.5	17	24	28	32	35	40	45
12,200 to 13,250 <sup>9</sup> .....	A	1.0	n/a	23	28	35	39	41	42	50
	B	2.0	n/a	20	25	28	30	32	37	47
17,700 to 18,820 .....	A	2.2	38	25	29	33	36	42	55	55
	B	2.2	38	20	24	28	32	35	36	36
18,920 to 19,700 <sup>10</sup> .....	A	2.2	38	25	29	33	36	42	55	55
	B	2.2	38	20	24	28	32	35	36	36
21,200 to 23,600 <sup>7,11</sup> .....	A	3.3	33.5	18	26	26	33	33	55	55

ANTENNA STANDARDS—Continued

Frequency (MHz)	Category	Maximum beamwidth to 3 dB points <sup>1</sup> (included angle in degrees)	Minimum antenna gain (dbi)	Minimum radiation suppression to angle in degrees from centerline of main beam in decibels						
				5° to 10°	10° to 15°	15° to 20°	20° to 30°	30° to 100°	100° to 140°	140° to 180°
24,250 to 25,250 <sup>10</sup> .....	B	3.3	33.5	17	24	24	29	29	40	50
	A	2.8	38	25	29	33	36	42	55	60
	B	2.8	38	20	24	28	32	35	36	45
31,000 to 31,300 <sup>12,13</sup> .....	n/a	4.0	38	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	A	n/a	38	25	29	33	36	42	55	55
	B	n/a	38	20	24	28	32	35	36	36
38,600 to 40,000 <sup>14</sup> .....	N/A	1.2	43	35	40	45	50	50	55	55
71,000 to 76,000 (co-polar) <sup>15</sup> .	N/A	1.2	43	45	50	50	55	55	55	55
71,000 to 76,000 (cross-polar) <sup>15</sup> .	N/A	1.2	43	35	40	45	50	50	55	55
81,000 to 86,000 (co-polar) <sup>15</sup> .	N/A	1.2	43	45	50	50	55	55	55	55
81,000 to 86,000 (cross-polar) <sup>15</sup> .	N/A	0.6	50.0	36	40	45	50	55	55	55
92,000 to 95,000 .....	N/A									

<sup>1</sup> If a licensee chooses to show compliance using maximum beamwidth to 3 dB points, the beamwidth limit shall apply in both the azimuth and the elevation planes.

<sup>2</sup> Except for Multiple Address System frequencies listed in §§ 101.147(b)(1) through (b)(4), where omnidirectional antennas may be used.

<sup>3</sup> Antennas used at outlying stations as part of a central protection alarm system need conform to only the following 2 standards:

- (i) The minimum on-beam forward gain must be at least 10 dBi, and
- (ii) The minimum front-to-back ratio must be at least 20 dB.

<sup>4</sup> Omnidirectional antennas may be authorized in the band 2150–2160 MHz.

<sup>5</sup> These antenna standards apply to all point-to-point stations authorized after June 1, 1997. Existing licensees and pending applicants on that date are grandfathered and need not comply with these standards.

<sup>6</sup> These antenna standards apply to all point-to-point stations authorized on or before June 1, 1997.

<sup>7</sup> Except for antennas between 140° and 180° authorized or pending on January 1, 1989, in the band 10,550 to 10,565 MHz for which minimum radiation suppression to angle (in degrees) from centerline of main beam is 36 decibels.

<sup>8</sup> These antenna standards apply only to DEMS User Stations licensed, in operation, or applied for prior to July 15, 1993.

<sup>9</sup> Except for Temporary-fixed operations in the band 13200–13250 MHz with output powers less than 250 mW and as provided in § 101.147(q), and except for antennas in the MVDDS service in the band 12.2–12.7 GHz.

<sup>10</sup> DEMS User Station antennas in this band must meet performance Standard B and have a minimum antenna gain of 34 dBi. The maximum beamwidth requirement does not apply to DEMS User Stations. DEMS Nodal Stations need not comply with these standards. Stations authorized to operate in the 24,250–25,250 MHz band do not have to meet these standards, however, the Commission may require the use of higher performance antennas where interference problems can be resolved by the use of such antennas.

<sup>11</sup> Except as provided in § 101.147(s).

<sup>12</sup> The minimum front-to-back ratio shall be 38 dBi.

<sup>13</sup> Mobile, except aeronautical mobile, stations need not comply with these standards.

<sup>14</sup> Stations authorized to operate in the 38,600–40,000 MHz band may use antennas other than those meeting the Category A standard. However, the Commission may require the use of higher performance antennas where interference problems can be resolved by the use of such antennas.

<sup>15</sup> Antenna gain less than 50 dBi (but greater than or equal to 43 dBi) is permitted only with a proportional reduction in maximum authorized EIRP in a ratio of 2 dB of power per 1 dB of gain, so that the maximum allowable EIRP (in dBW) for antennas of less than 50 dBi gain becomes +55–2(50–G), where G is the antenna gain in dBi. In addition, antennas in these bands must meet two additional standards for minimum radiation suppression: At angles between 1.2 and 5 degrees from the centerline of the main beam, co-polar discrimination must be G–28, where G is the antenna gain in dBi; and at angles of less than 5 degrees from the centerline of main beam, cross-polar discrimination must be at least 25 dB.

(c) The Commission shall require the replacement of any antenna or periscope antenna system of a permanent fixed station operating at 932.5 MHz or higher that does not meet performance Standard A specified in paragraph (c) of this section, at the expense of the licensee operating such antenna, upon a showing that said antenna causes or is likely to cause interference to (or receive interference from) any other authorized or applied for station whereas

a higher performance antenna is not likely to involve such interference. Antenna performance is expected to meet the standards of paragraph (c) of this section for parallel polarization. For cases of potential interference, an antenna will not be considered to meet Standard A unless the parallel polarization performance for the discrimination angle involved meets the requirements, even if the cross-polarization performance controls the interference.

(d) In cases where passive reflectors are employed in conjunction with transmitting antenna systems, the foregoing paragraphs of this section also will be applicable. However, in such instances, the center of the major lobe of radiation from the antenna normally must be directed at the passive reflector, and the center of the major lobe of radiation from the passive reflector directed toward the receiving station with which it communicates.

(e) Periscope antennas used at an electric power facility plant area will be excluded from the requirements of paragraph (c) of this section on a case-by-case basis where technical considerations or safety preclude the use of other types of antenna systems.

(f) In the 10,700–11,700 MHz band, a fixed station may employ transmitting and receiving antennas meeting performance standard B in any area. If a Fixed Service or Fixed Satellite Service licensee or applicant makes a showing that it is likely to receive interference from such fixed station and that such interference would not exist if the fixed station used an antenna meeting performance standard A, the fixed station licensee must modify its use. Specifically, the fixed station licensee must either substitute an antenna meeting performance standard A or operate its system with an EIRP reduced so as not to radiate, in the direction of the other licensee, an EIRP in excess of that which would be radiated by a station using a Category A antenna and operating with the maximum EIRP allowed by the rules. A licensee or prior applicant using an antenna that does not meet performance Standard A may object to a prior coordination notice based on interference only if such interference would be predicted to exist if the licensee or prior applicant used an antenna meeting performance standard A.

(g) In the event harmful interference is caused to the operation of other stations, the Commission may, after notice and opportunity for hearing, order changes to be made in the height, orientation, gain and radiation pattern of the antenna system.

[61 FR 26677, May 28, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 4924, Feb. 3, 1997; 62 FR 24582, May 6, 1997; 63 FR 6105, Feb. 6, 1998; 65 FR 38329, June 20, 2000; 65 FR 59358, Oct. 5, 2000; 67 FR 43038, June 26, 2002; 68 FR 4957, Jan. 31, 2003; 69 FR 3267, Jan. 23, 2004; 70 FR 29997, May 25, 2005; 72 FR 55677, Oct. 1, 2007; 73 FR 55775, Sept. 26, 2008; 76 FR 59572, Sept. 27, 2011]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 77 FR 54432, Sept. 5, 2012, §101.115 was amended in paragraph (b), by revising the introductory text and in the table in paragraph (b)(2) by revising the entries “5,925 to 6,425”, “6,525 to 6,875”, “6,875 to 7,075”, “17,700 to 18,820”, “18,920 to 19,700”, and “21,200 to 23,600”, effective Oct. 5, 2012. For the convenience of the revised text is set forth as follows:

#### § 101.115 Directional antennas.

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(b) Fixed stations (other than temporary fixed stations and DEMS nodal stations) operating at 932.5 MHz or higher must employ transmitting and receiving antennas (excluding second receiving antennas for operations such as space diversity) meeting the appropriate performance Standard A indicated below, except that in areas not subject to frequency congestion, antennas meeting performance Standard B may be used, subject to the requirements set forth in paragraph (d) of this section. For frequencies with a Standard B1 and a Standard B2, in order to comply with Standard B an antenna must fully meet either Standard B1 or Standard B2. Licensees shall comply with the antenna standards table shown in this paragraph in the following manner:

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(2) \* \* \*

Frequency	Category	Maximum beamwidth to 3 dB points <sup>5</sup> (included angle in degrees)	Minimum antenna gain (dBi)	Minimum radiation suppression to angle in degrees from centerline of main beam in decibels							
				5° to 10°	10° to 15°	15° to 20°	20° to 30°	30° to 100°	100° to 140°	140° to 180°	
5,925 to 6,425 <sup>5</sup>	A	2.2	38	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
	B1	2.2	38	25	29	33	36	42	55	55	
	B2	4.1	32	21	25	29	32	35	39	45	
6,525 to 6,875 <sup>5</sup>	A	2.2	38	15	20	23	28	29	60	60	
	B1	2.2	38	25	29	33	36	42	55	55	
	B2	4.1	32	21	25	29	32	35	39	45	
6,875 to 7,075	A	2.2	38	25	29	33	36	42	55	55	
	B1	2.2	38	21	25	29	32	35	39	45	
	B2	4.1	32	15	20	23	28	29	60	60	
17,700 to 18,820	A	2.2	38	25	29	33	36	42	55	55	
	B1	2.2	38	20	24	28	32	35	36	36	
	B2	3.3	33.5	18	22	29	31	35	55	55	
18,920 to 19,700 <sup>10</sup>	A	2.2	38	25	29	33	36	42	55	55	
	B1	2.2	38	20	24	28	32	35	36	36	
	B2	3.3	33.5	18	22	29	31	35	55	55	
21,200 to 23,600 <sup>7,11</sup>	A	3.3	33.5	18	26	26	33	33	55	55	
	B1	3.3	33.5	17	24	24	29	29	40	50	
	B2	4.5	30.5	14	19	22	24	29	52	52	

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<sup>5</sup> These antenna standards apply to all point-to-point stations authorized after June 1, 1997. Existing licensees and pending applicants on that date are grandfathered and need not comply with these standards.  
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<sup>7</sup> Except for antennas between 140° and 180° authorized or pending on January 1, 1989, in the band 10,550 to 10,565 MHz for which minimum radiation suppression to angle (in degrees) from centerline of main beam is 36 decibels.  
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<sup>10</sup> DEMS User Station antennas in this band must meet performance Standard B and have a minimum antenna gain of 34 dBi. The maximum beamwidth requirement does not apply to DEMS User Stations. DEMS Nodal Stations need not comply with these standards. Stations authorized to operate in the 24,250–25,250 MHz band do not have to meet these standards, however, the Commission may require the use of higher performance antennas where interference problems can be resolved by the use of such antennas.  
<sup>11</sup> Except as provided in § 101.147(s).  
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